

## THE DEMING GRAPHIC

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CLYDE EARL ELY, Editor and Owner

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DEMING, NEW MEXICO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1915.

Blow, bugles of battle, the marches of peace;  
East, west, north and south, let the long quarrel cease;  
Sing the song that the angels began,  
Sing of glory to God and of good-will to man!

—Whittier.

### A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS

Tommorrow is Christmas. The Graphic wishes its readers and all others the season's happiest greetings. This must be a merry Christmas, not because the year has been one of peace and plenty, but in spite of the strenuous conditions that accompany the pioneering in a new land.

When our minds turn to such a religious festival as Christmas, the suggestion is always of the way our forefathers kept it on the fringe of civilization surrounded by enemies and at grips with nature. We are all the sons and daughters of those pioneers; we believe that their Yuletide fun was not pretense; we know that we would be unworthy of them did we otherwise than enter into the joy of this season which they held so dear. Let us confess no such weakness, but make this Christmas all that its religious traditions demand and all that race and clan associations make possible.

### SPANCHO' EL BANDITO

How different is the Villa today from that Villa that first came victorious into Juarez. Very brief is the rulership founded alone on military power. "Pancho" the outlaw, once the honored chief of Mexico's strongest army and who had his photograph taken in the president's chair in Mexico City, is again only "Pancho" the outlaw. Deming will remember him when he speaks to the crowds at the station with Obregon, afterwards his conqueror, on his right. He was then flushed with the success of his southern campaign that ended in the capture of Mexico City and the flight of Huerta. Great was the body. Two elegantly appointed automobiles on a flat car bearing Huerta's monogram were visible proof of success to the public. The soldiers that composed his body guard were well fed, clothed and armed. A captured federal band made music for that festive trip. From factors he was going to certain victory and later—defeat and brigandage.

But "Pancho" the bandit is wiser. He may elect to fight it out in the mountain fastness which he knows so well or he may find asylum in the United States where he has ample fortune in good coin of the realm. No one need worry about "Pancho".

### ADVERTISE FREE LANDS

Do you remember the good old halcyon days when land here sold at table-top prices and produced healthy crops of sage and mesquite? Everybody was happy and prosperous; everybody grabbed all the land they could from the government and bought out his neighbor. With so many acres of land at such a price, nobody was able to figure himself rich on the basis of an envelope. Most of us still have the land, but we can't figure ourselves rich, in fact we figure now that we are poor or worse. Our note is mostly overdrawn and we haven't sold an acre or even seen a sucker for many months. Now that is a pretty picture, isn't it? Yes, indeed, it is.

Many a Rip Van Winkle is still talking of the "value" of his land, John Deere land that will keep one cow on forty acres, and a scrub cow at that, worth real money. "G'day, waticher givin' us?"

There is land in the Minibee valley that is worth real money, but it isn't covered with sage and mesquite. From it comes the food for man and beast through the efforts of some hard working farmer. Its value is based on its production. So is the other kind that produces nothing and is worth nothing.

There is about 300,000 acres in the Minibee valley. Of this, perhaps, there are 15,000 in cultivation after one fashion or another. This comparison is introduced to show that the Graphic does not forget the untried "improvement" idea. That's just the point; there are not enough acres in cultivation to make the land as a whole worth anything. Hence, the reason that I said on the labor of another making his land worth something is徒劳的. We are all, or mostly all, that lazy fellow, who "would reaps where thou hast not sown".

The land movement stopped short of a favorable conclusion. The throwing of hundreds of acres on the market caused an overproduction. The demand did not keep up with the supply and the price was forced down. A common economic result.

This is also true. We cannot afford to hold much longer, if indeed we would not be ahead by dropping our holdings now. Those that hold on may become rich some day, but the same money invested in almost any productive enterprise would bring larger results and many times quicker. We are losing money by holding either deeded lands or government claims.

This is not knowing. It's just the plain facts, stated in the hope that many will wake up and get in a frame of mind where something can be done to improve the condition. Old ideas, however fixed, must be discarded and radical remedies provided.

Do you remember the good old halcyon days when land sold for table-top prices and produced healthy crops of sage and mesquite?

Would you like to see prosperity smile on us again? It is possible that even more satisfactory prosperity overtake us, because it can consciously be made permanent and free of speculative gambling.

Free lands was the secret of the first land rush. Nothing less than free lands will bring on another such movement. No, we have no more government lands, but we are going to have a lot of it again, unless something is done to revive immigration. Why not compromise? Everyone gave half of his holding to the community to pitch out to immigrants that are found prepared with the provision that it must be developed after the most approved methods. Suppose an owner turned in eighty acres with the understanding that a settler was to go on it and improve all of it and in five years give half the tract back to the owner, wouldn't that make forty acres improved and returned worth a lot more than eighty in bush? So much for actual values produced by such a plan as to farm land itself.

The bringing in of immigrants, with the money spent by them for improvements and development, would cause a new era of prosperity for Deming. And right here is where we live. There is not a business man in the city who cannot afford to give every acre he owns to cause the return of a greater prosperity. Yes, we are doing well, but we can do better. We can bring back all the flush of the boom without the headache and brouhaha. Prosperity in our business, right now, is the important thing and we can afford to purchase it with every acre we hold in the valley.

You may not believe it, but there are practically as many prospective land buyers here now as ever. They come in every day and look us over thoroughly for a few days and depart without buying an acre. Why?

### GENERAL NEWS NOTES

Bat Springs, Va.—President Wilson and his wife took a long automobile drive over Virginia mountain roads late yesterday suspending most of their morning answering some of the messages of congratulations that have come to them from all parts of the world.

Juarez, Mexico—Chihuahua City was evacuated by Villa forces yesterday, according to arrivals here early in the week from the south.

The Carranza troops under General Trevino, numbering it is said, about three hundred men, are reported to have arrived yesterday to take possession of the capital.

The last of the Villa troops in the capital, about a thousand men, arrived here Monday morning; desperate and unpaid.

They stated that General Villa left the capital Sunday night with only forty men, after roundly abusing his general officers. He rode on with his little band into the darkness, supposing for themselves, in the western Chihuahua mountains.

El Paso Tex.—Heavily armed Mexican and American troops faced each other across the Rio Grande, as a result of an all-day riot in the border town of Juarez, Chihuahua, Monday, giving into the hands of the Carranza government by Villa's general.

One shot from the south of the border, followed by U. S. Military authorities to have been fired on the American troops, entrenched in a ditch about the stock yard, stopped Gen. A. Diepert, of El Paso, a lookout from the top of an E. P. & S. freight car. He was dead with bullet in his heart when a guard reached him. His trainmates died at the shot. Later the train was hauled out of rifle shot range of the squads of Mexican cavalry that crept noiselessly along the south bank of the Rio Grande.

Russia has brought sixteen transports filled with soldiers of Vardan, the Bulgarian black Sea port, under the escort of warships which enclosed the city and covered the landing of troops that are now fortifying the place.

Consimilable accounts of the withdrawal of the British forces from the Gallipoli declare that the invaders were driven to the sea by a Turkish general offensive after suffering heavy loss. British accounts maintain that only three men were wounded in the withdrawal.

Serbian officials arriving at Rome say the disaster to Serbia was largely due to her not attacking Bulgaria before the latter was ready because the entente powers such as she could.

Everything indicates that the Greek front will be crossed by the Austro-German, Bulgarian and Turkish allies as soon as they are inspired despite the protests of Greece.

Great Britain has a fighting force in the Dardanelles of 125,000 men, previously announced in the house of commons early this week, moving a rate of an additional million men.

In opposing the credit of 600,000 marks made the Reichstag voted Tuesday the dissolution of the Socialist minority which is against the credit. Friedrich August Graf Giesler declared that the association of all sides in the war had caused the failure of all endeavor for peace, according to Berlin dispatch.

New York—Information obtained by the local authorities Monday from witnesses appearing before the grand jury which is investigating the alleged plot of Paul Keating, head of the detective bureau of the Bankers' American line, to blow up the Welland canal, so boldly extended the scope of the probe. The grand jury had adjourned for the day. Federal officials stated that the Welland canal plot might prove to be merely an attempt in a conspiracy which extended throughout the country.

Christiania, Norway—Every nation in the world will soon look upon the American naval patrols as taking the initiative in stopping Europe's worst war. The landing of the naval expedition in Europe will be recorded as one of the most benevolent things the American people ever did, said Henry Ford Sunday to the Associated Press representative on landing on Norwegian soil.

The steamship Oscar II, carrying the first peace expedition, arrived at this port Saturday afternoon after a fourteen days' voyage from New York. The delegation expressed much displeasure because the road was delayed three days by the British authorities at Kirkwall, England.

Washington—Pending receipt of Austria's reply to the second American note regarding the sinking of the Italian steamer Ancon, Count Erich Zwickneck, chargé of the Austrian Embassy, is conducting a tour in Germany negotiations with Secretary Lansing, seeking an amicable settlement of the纠纷. An intimation to that effect was relayed to the state department Tuesday after the charge had conferred at some length with the secretary.

It is understood that Baron Zwickneck is negotiating separately similar to those carried on Count von Bernstorff, the German plenipotentiary following the sinking of the Aragon.

It is considered improbable however that such negotiations can develop to an important stage until after receipt of the report which is expected sometime this week.

Washington—The official text of Austria's note to the American note on the Austria-Hungarian government denies that the views presented by the United States, even if correct, warrant the blame for the disaster being laid on the Austro-Hungarian government, especially on the submarine commander.

The note denies also that the blame can be placed on the Austro-Hungarian government even if a most rigorous legal sentence were placed on the judgment of the case.

The note also states that the Austria-Hungarian government is unable to determine that the United States intends to indicate when it mentioned the attitude of Germany toward submarine warfare.

Washington—Further arguments and disputes in support of Great Britain's demand that her neutrals are profiting by the British war restrictions on commerce at the expense of American trade have been submitted to the state department by the British embassy in a memorandum, which was made public Sunday.

We return—What is believed to be an extremely sharp plot against American neutrals has been unearthed by agents of the department of justice investigating the alleged conspiracy to blow up the Welland canal.

## IF YOU WISH

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